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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

VEERASAMY et al.

Atty. Ref.: 3691-356

Serial No. To be Assigned

Group: 1762

Filed: December 6, 2001

Examiner: Chen, B.

For: METHOD OF ION BEAM MILLING A GLASS SUBSTRATE PRIOR TO
DEPOSITING A COATING SYSTEM THEREON, AND CORRESPONDING
SYSTEM FOR CARRYING OUT THE SAME

* * * * *

December 6, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-38.

Please add the following new claims:

~~39~~. (New) A method of making a coated article, the method comprising:

providing a glass substrate;

ion beam milling substantially an entire surface of the glass substrate so as to reduce the thickness of the substrate by at least about 2 Å, wherein during the ion beam milling an ion beam is directed toward the glass substrate so as to hit the substrate at an angle of from about 40-60 degrees in order to mill the substrate; and